

District Literacy Meeting minutes November 15, 2011

Present: Laurie, Beth, Mary, Vanessa Stan

CCSS/ES

October 28 PD Day:

Beth was with the PE group, but got a lot done. Modules went great. Wiki is well developed. Was not present at either MS group.

Laurie was with MS math and SS at NGMS – that afternoon Math worked on standards for mathematical practice and Artisan Teacher components of practice. There were absences which is a concern.

Mary was with Science & ELA at Hawley – she had a few absences too – smaller group because Media and TAs did not attend with her group. The afternoon session did not work on Curriculum Guide extensively. There is concern about needing multiple eyes on these guides so that everyone has a chance to review and keep quality up.

Stan's high school groups went very smoothly, no issues, but has some major issues with the way the curriculum guides are being developed. Quality and consistency is not being addressed. Many groups are not addressing these with the same attention.

Vanessa's role on this day was different, but there is a disparity in which schools will be able to implement the new ITES. Varying degrees of existing technology will affect the way that these are implemented. This is the perspective that her tech team is using to approach this issue. There will be a new position filled this week for Instructional technology is pushed in district. She ordered 300 PCs last night to fill in holes at schools (elementary schools in especially) -good bang for buck. A lot of equipment is nearing end of life or piecemeal. All of these tech issues are important to support CCSS/ES.

Question about Discovery Education and availability or awareness by teachers. Vanessa says new District Instructional Technology Facilitator (ITF) will address this.

Also, there was a consensus at the meeting that we will NOT have quality Curriculum Guides to work with. Literacy Standards for CC in other content areas have not been addressed for the most part. Are we making a mistake about having all teachers involved in developing the Curriculum Guides. Are we spinning our

wheels on this? There are just too many cooks in the kitchen right now and progress is uneven and quality is questionable. A lot of teachers are just saying “tell me what to do. “ There are lots of teachers that know how to follow a curriculum guide, but don’t feel qualified to CREATE curriculum guide.

Solutions: Create core teams for each content area with outside contractors or expert teachers to create the documents. Hire them to work on these to try and create drafts. Use RttT money that was allotted for this purpose.

Once you have a draft framework or baseline document, then it can be tweaked locally.

Overall, concerns about attendance, Beth will follow up with Principals.

Feb 24 PD Day:

RBT – Beth is point on this, Bridgett is on the help list for this module – Mary offered help too...

What about the “Depth of Knowledge” by Webb – is this replacing RBT for ES in NC – this is what Smarter Balanced Assessment is using – so will this be reflected in the curriculum? How does DOK compare? Can we convert?

What about vertical integration?

Laurie also mentioned the newest module, “Designing Local Curriculum for the 21st Century Learner.” Should we present this one too?

Day 4 Should Include:

AM:

RBT/DOK Module

Designing Local Curriculum

PM:

Review draft frameworks of expertly developed Curr Guides.

SAS/EVAAS:

Will discuss at next MS meeting Nov 17th

Granville County Charter School:

Gave overview and synopsis of progress thus far...

Lucy 360 Camera:

Vanessa says there is a laminated, illustrated step-step set of instructions that technology has created with the camera and laptop in a carrying case. Tina Britt is in charge of check-in, check-out process.

The training we had was bad, but the directions that Vanessa has created are very user friendly. If people try it out, they can learn quickly. Remember that you need prior permission to film students.

Beth is going to use the camera to record the ELA & Content Balanced Literacy Training at MP Nov 21 and Nov 28. Mary will be presenting to teachers. Starts at 4:00 pm both days. This will be a trial run on how the camera works...

Gus also inquired about this on the Leadership Wiki and Dr. Martin replied that he might want to take the lead on this.

FRC Requirements:

Discussed new requirements and impact on graduation, as well as offering choices to students and making the classrooms ENGAGING for students. We have to get the students fired up!

Granville Online/Technology:

OCS:

NCVPS offering online supplement to OCS classes to satisfy HQ requirements, but are looking at ways to do locally – using a local teacher with a Moodle to team up with an EC teacher – blended learning. So far, the blended classes are working, but they are far above the functioning level for most of our students. Vanessa is working with EC teachers to help develop a better local model.

Re-imaging:

Next two weeks will be re-imaging all Macbook student computers. This should solve lots of their problems. Rest of staff will follow...

Other changes:

Increased bandwidth, content filters, relocated to new offices at NGMS,

Online wireless access:

Most sites are fully wireless, but MPMS, NGMS, WOX, BSE, WILT, CE, JTOH, SS, GCHS are not yet... The ones that are fully equipped wireless can handle online testing for all students plus some growth... There are enough labs to do online testing in every building right now. RttT grant funds were allocated to the goal of all schools having wireless infrastructure by the end of the grant 2013-14.

Granville Online:

We have created a leadership team to examine standards and drive quality control issues – there are 455 online students (MS and HS) – most are in a traditional class. Questions were raised about teacher accountability and observations. Vanessa is contracting administrator to monitor this. Teaching online is a privilege, no promises for continued contracts each semester. Online learning is here to stay. It fits the needs of many students, but not all. Fully synchronous classes are not in the

immediate future, but synchronous instruction needs to be a part of our model moving forward. Beverly Fedewa has been contracted to monitor and track data for Granville Online.

Have had three other LEAs come and visit SGHS campus to see 1:1 campus working successfully. This is a sign that things are coming together.

Beginning Teacher:

83 beginning teachers (yr 1, 2, 3) Mentors are in high demand. Mentor pay is down, new standards demand more too. (33 – year 1, 30 – year 2, 20 - year 3)

Testing:

Online Field tests went well, but some server issues at DPI. Had to reschedule at JFW. Beth had meeting yesterday with Paige, TCs and Vanessa. Resolved lots of issues. Still trying to schedule who is doing paper/pencil and online. Wants to consider exploring/moving online for EOGs in spring too.

Gave overview of ACT, PLAN, Work Keys – she will be at Graham all day Wed and will give updates then. These are different in that they will be going straight to schools and not through Beth.

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Food! Coffee! Hospitality! Good Conversation! Very Relaxed!

Delta

Missing team members

Lela – illness

Elem Coaches & Literacy Specialist – Training

Dr. Martin – NCSBA Conference w/Ateam

Stephanie Gooch – ECP Offices moving

Dr. Myrick – Lead contact for Central Office in Ateam's absence